chess digest

Vol. 3—No. 9

FRANK MARSHALL
Chess Champion

25c

— CHESS DIGEST —
Formerly CALIFORNIA CHESS NEWS

Appears at least ten (10) times a year.
Subscription $2.00 a year
P. O. Box 124, Santa Rosa, California.
Telephone 4983-M

Canadian subscriptions should be sent direct to CHESS DIGEST, by Postal Money Order for $2.00.

PHYLLIS SEIDKIN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
GEORGE KOLTANOWSKI
SENIOR EDITOR

MRS. NANCY ROOS, Los Angeles
LOUIS YATES, San Anselmo
Staff Photographers
STANLEY G. BEHRENDS, Postal Games Editor

to 'c. d.' friends

IT IS time for our yearly heart-to-heart chat . . . which I admit should become a monthly one so that we can gear ourselves better to the needs of the times, the reactions of the readers and the action to be taken to improve our "Chess Digest."

In spite of constant rumors that (1) we were discontinuing publication, we have appeared regularly in your mailbox; and that (2) we had sold the magazine, so far no luck. Any offers? (You will have to admit that Phyllis Seidkin is doing a splendid job in the makeup and general appearance of the magazine).

As for a rumor the we were a small magazine, that is true. We are small, but we are growing up. We do give you fine material and only charge you two dollars a year for "Chess Digest" and feel that now it can be said that we are the best chess magazine in the world at the price.

BUT, let's get down to brass tacks. What is our objective. To help stimulate and improve chess on the West Coast primarily.

The number of pages we give can be increased, if you will help to increase the interest in chess in your community. If you agree that we are doing a splendid bit of work for the good of the game you like to play, then help us by getting your friends to subscribe.

Changes in the magazine can be made if you want them. A year from now we may be up to twenty-four pages or we may be only eight pages, twice this digest size. You are the one to decide that. You also decide what should go in the magazine. So why hesitate? Let us know what you prefer, and we will do our best to comply with your wish. We have decided to have a monthly roundtable at our editorial desk, and find out what really ails this world (chess) of ours.

AND we intend to start talking!

From now on, we shall state our views on many subjects even if that means that we shall at times be putting our head into the lion's mouth, hoping against hope the lion is old and has no teeth.

There are innovations this month in "Chess Digest." Earl Yaggie has been obliged, due to illness in his family, to discontinue the correspondence editorship. Stanley C. Behrends is taking over the job. Most of you who have been playing in the games-by-mail sections will have heard from him directly by now.

Another welcome mat is out for George Flynn of Sacramento. You'll enjoy his monthly comments. Let us know what you think of Henry King's recently published original story. We think it is good . . . very good.

Next month you will have more theoretical articles, from Dr. Max Euwe, Henry Grob and Shearon Bonner, and also some pleasant surprises.

In closing a note to clubs and leagues. We can only publish your news if we receive it by the fifteenth of the month preceding publicaiton. We want to publicize you . . . if you publicize yourself.

GEORGE KOLTANOWSKI

from the mail

Editor:

Congratulations on an excellent issue of "Chess Digest" (Vol. 3, No. 8). It contains much Chess meat. But I must take exception to Mr. Koltanowski's footnote to the Martin-Bagby game in which he arrives at a draw. On move 31. he gives PxB for White but why not 31. P-KN4, forcing B-B2; then 32. P-KB4 and Black is helpless. How about it?

—JIM MYERS,
Kentfield

(Not quite right Jim. If. 32. P-KB4, Black can continue with R-R2; and I cannot see a direct win for White. Thanks for the fine comments re our magazine . . . how about recommending it to your friends? Thanks in advance.)

—G. K.

COVER PICTURE of Frank J. Marshall was taken a week before his death in New York. An outstanding figure in American chess, he was United States champion for 27 years.

game from san francisco

By MALCOLM WIENER

Washington, D.C.

Some months ago "Chess Digest" ran a series of articles on California chess players. As I've always considered myself a Californian (having spent nine years in San Francisco) I felt pleased when it was suggested that I be the subject of just such an article.

However, a difficulty arose. I've played most of my chess at the Marshall Chess Club in New York, and hence am virtually unknown in California. This meant that I would have to write an article about myself, since no one else connected with "Chess Digest" knew anything about me.

Rather than attempt to present a true picture of my chess ability, I've annotated two of my games. Every reader can decide for himself (or herself) whether I am a duffer, a potzer, or a woodpusher! (All replies to this profound question may be mailed to "Chess Digest.")

GAME I

The following game was played in a simultaneous exhibition at the Barton Chess Studio in San Francisco, 1950.

White: Wiener Black: R. K. Pease

1. P-K4 P-K3
2. P-Q4 P-QB4
3. N-KB3 N-QB3?

Better 3. . . . PxP; 4. NxP, N-KB3 transposing into a variation of the Sicilian Defence.

4. P-Q5 PxP 6. B-K2 N-K4
5. PxP Q-K2ch 7. O-O NxNch?

Concedes White a big edge in development. Better was 7. . . P-Q3, although White gets a connected, passed pawn on the Q-file.

8. BxN Q-Q3 10. N-B3 K-B1?
9. P-QB4 B-K2

After the game Black remarked that he had been afraid of 11. . . N-N5. This is truly a case of the threat being stronger than the execution.

11. R-K1 N-B3 13. RxN Q-B2
12. N-K4 NxN

The Q has no scope here. It should be shifted to the beleaguered K-side, instead.

14. B-B4 P-Q3 17. R-K1 P-KB3
15. Q-K2 B-B4 18. B-N4!
16. R-K3 R-K1

Initiating the decisive combination.

18. . . . BxB 19. QxB P-KN4

Putting the burden of "showing goods" on White. Passive defence could hardly have been better in the long run.

20. B-N3 P-KR4 22. R-KB3 Q-B1
21. Q-B5 P-R5
23. QxNP K-B2

The best defense. After 23. PxB, 24. RxPch is finis; while if 23. R-KN1, 24. RxPch! is again the most facile.

24. BxRP QR-KN1 26. QxB mate.
25. RxPch! BxR

GAME II

New York, 1950

White: Schwartz Black: Wiener

1. P-Q4 P-Q4
2. P-K3 . . .

Instead of playing 2. N-KB3 as in the regular Colle System, White intends N-K2 -N3 and P-KB3. The object of these moves is to enforce P-K4. Since as far as I know there is no name for this opening, I suggest that it be called the Semi-Colle.

2. . . . B-B4 4. N-Q2 N-KB3
3. B-Q3 P-K3 5. P-KB3 BxB

Usually it is bad to strengthen White's center in this manner. However, BxB is strong here.

6. PxB P-B4 8. P-Q4 . . .
7. PxP BxP

Now 8. P-K4 would be weak because White would be unable to O-O.

8. . . . B-N5

In order to prevent P-K4.

9. Q-R4ch N-B3 10. P-QR3 . . .

Better would be 10. N-K2, 11. O-O, and 12. N-QN3 leaving the Bishop "hanging." If, after 11. O-O, Black plays BxN anyhow, White has saved a tempo.

10. . . . BxNch 14. N-N3 QR-QB1
11. BxB O-O 15. B-B3 P-QR3
12. N-K2 Q-Q2 16. KR-Q1 . . .
13. O-O KR-Q1

Still trying to enforce P-K4.

16. . . . N-R2

The point of Black's last move. After the exchange of Queens, Black's endgame chances would be superior.

17. Q-B2 . . .

17. QxQ and 17. Q-N3 were both better than the text. However, White is adamant. He intends to play P-K4, come what may.

17. . . . N-N4 20. P-R5 Q-B3
18. P-QR4 NxB 21. N-K2 R-QB1
19. PxN R-B5 22. QR-N1 N-K1!

The winning maneuver.

23. R-N6 Q-B2 25. RxN . . .
24. R(1)N1 N-Q3 w

Probably best. After 25. N-N4 White would be lost.

25. . . . QxR 26. RxP Q-R6

There is no way of holding the QRP.

27. P-K4 . . .

At last!

27. . . . QxRP 28. PxP QxQP

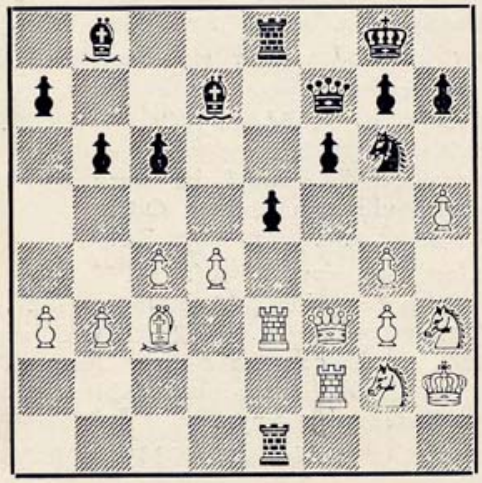
29. R-R7 and White resigned, for after 29. RxBP, 30. NxR, QxPch Black comes out the exchange and two pawns ahead.

---

from marienbad

Notes by E. W. GRABILL
Los Angeles

MITCHELL White vs. RUBINSTEIN Black
Played at Marienbad Tourney, 1925
From "Rubinstein's Chess Masterpieces"
Black: Rubinstein



White: Michell

The game proceeded:

40. . . . PxP

This and the series of moves following, including Black's forty-third move, are very fine, even the moves Black actually played from forty-four on. But on that move forty-four, Black showed that he had not seen the full force of his sacrifice combination (which after all was quite deep) and missed the correct and marvelous continuation, as did also the editor of the book above named, Hans Kmoch, the famous analyst.

41. PxN, QxNP; 42. RxRch, RxR; 43. BxP, BxP; 44. N(1)B3, BxQ?? (the interrogations are mine, EWG). Kmoch's note on 44. BxQ is "The astonishing point of the combination, Black wins in the ending;" and so Rubinstein did, at the fifty-fifth move.

But the really "astonishing point" is that Rubinstein did not see it! Not to mention Kmoch, who fancies himself the greatest editor. For 44. . . . BxNB6 wins at once in brilliant style (instead of 44. . . . BxQ).

If 45. NxB, QR4ch and the Q is lost.
If 45. QxB(B3), QR5 is decisive.
If 45. Q-QB2 (to save the Q), BQ8!!;

continuing the attack on the Q and thus preventing the White NP from taking B and protecting the White N with Q (on B2); and if White plays R or QxB, or QN1, 46. . . . QR5 wins.

If 45. QxP, BxPch; 46. KN1 (he cannot play KxB without losing the Q by discovered ch) BxR and Black wins another piece; as 47. K, N, or BxB are equally disastrous. Perhaps as good a try for White as is QN1, protecting his N and threatening several plausible counter-attacks if White can get rid of the Black P at QB4 in time.

But White's Q and N are virtually stalemated and his R impotent. So if 45. QN1, B-K7; 46. BxB, RxB; 47. QxP, BxN; and White has lost a piece, as he can neither take the N with K nor check with Q. If 47. RQ1 (instead of QxP) 47. . . . QR5; and now White's R must stay on the first rank, or Black will play his R to the 8th rank, sacrificing it for the mate on R7, the check of the White R at Q7 being of course ineffective.

If (after 45. QN1, BK7; 46. BxB, RxB): 47. PN4, QR5; 48. PxP, BB7; 49. RxB, QxR Black can stop both Ps with an easy win.

If (after 45. QN1, BK7; 46. BxB, RxB): 47. RQ1, BB7; 48. QB1, RK5! (threatening QxNch and mate with the R) 49. QQ3, (the White R ch is of no value and if 49. RQ3, RK8) 49. . . . BN6! 50. Q-Q7ch, RK2 and no stimulants are available.

Subvariants of those above are even less effective. Altogether it seems that this endgame as it might have been played is replete with interesting and delicate manuevers.

on planning and judging in chess

(Following is the fifth part of an article by Dr. Max Euwe, world-renowned chess master. The article will be continued in subsequent issues of "Chess Digest."—Ed.)

By DR. MAX EUWE

We shall now examine a number of examples illustrating various forms of the pawn majority on the Q side.

They will be shown in less detail and serve the double purpose of — (1) elucidating still further the ideas already set out, and (2) showing other forms of a pawn majority and their characteristics.

1. P-K4, P-QB3; 2. P-Q4, P-Q4; 3. PxP, PxP; 4. P-QB4, Kt-KB3; 5. Kt-QB3, Kt-B3; 6. B-Kt5, P-K3; 7. Kt-B3, B-K2; 8. R-B1, Castles; 9. P-B5, Kt-K5; 10. BxB, QxB; 11. B-K2, B-Q2; 12. P-QR3.

Diagram No. 1

This position arose in Botvinnik-Konstantinopolsky, Sverdlovsk, 1943, and according to "M.C.O." White has the better game.

The position shows great similarity with the preceding one. Here, too, White has pawn majority on the Q side against which Black's Knight at K5 is not a sufficient compensation. Again White's plan comprises: securing his pawn formation on the Queen side, obtaining command of the squares QB6 and if possible QB7 as well, and the advance P-QB6, after P-QKt4.

During these operations White's K5 acquires a special significance for a Knight posted there adds to White's command of QB6.

After these remarks, the further course of the game is easy to understand.

12. . . . P-B4

Fine rightly criticizes this move as weakening Black's K4 and thus playing into his opponent's hand.

Correct was: 12. . . ., P-B3; 12. P-QKt4, KtxKt; 14. RxKt, P-QR3; 15. Castles, QR-Q1; with the object eventually to obtain a passed KP as a compensation for White's Q-side pawn majority.

13. BKt5 . . .

It is often essential to act quickly. The text-move threatens 14. BxKt followed by 15. Kt-K5, and a gradual exploitation of his majority as Black is practically powerless because of the solid position of White's Knight at K5.

13. . . . Kt-KKt4

This cuts across White's intentions — occupying K5 with a Knight, but at the cost of submitting to another drawback.

14. BxKt KtxKtch 16. Q-B4 QR-K1
15. QxKt PxB 17. O-O P-K4

The only way in which Black can get rid of his backward pawn.

18. QxKP QxQ 19. PxQ RxP

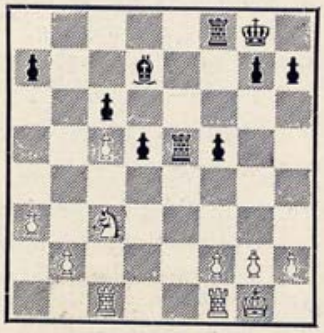


Diagram No. 2

The fight has assumed an entirely differnet character. To be sure White's pawn majority is still in being, but Black's supported QP is no less valuable an asset. However, White has secured a fresh advantage, he has a good Knight against Black's bad Bishop. The Bishop is bad because the black pawns stand on the same color and its mobility is thereby strictly limited. The Knight is strong because sooner or later it will be able

to reach Q4 where it will be secure from both the adverse pawns and the Bishop.

The treatment of this type of position will be shown in a later discussion where we shall again refer to Diagram 2.

1. P-K4, P-K4; 2. Kt-KB3, Kt-QB3; 3. B-Kt5, P-QR3; 4. B-R4, Kt-B3; 5. Castles, KtxP; 6. P-Q4, P-QKt4; 7. B-Kt3, P-Q4; 8. PxP, B-K3; 9. P-B3, B-K2; 10. R-K1, Castles; 11. QKt-Q2, Kt-B4; 12. B-B2, P-Q5; 13. PxP, KtxQP; 14. KtxKt, QxKt.

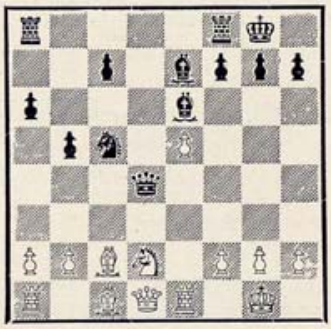


Diagram No. 3

The "book" formerly found fault with Black's position on several counts. It was wrongly assumed that, with the Queens still on the board, White's position was entirely satisfactory with good chances of a K-side attack. Furthermore, after the exchange of Queens, White was still thought to have a satisfactory game because of his greater command of space and the favorable disposition of his forces.

In this last conclusion, the real meaning of the pawn majority on the Q side was completely left out of the reckoning.

As a double proof of this contention we give here a position in actual play.

White: Dr. Lasker Black: Dr. Tarrasch
St. Petersburg, 1914

15. Kt-Kt3; the best in the circumstances. White is not afraid of getting a doubled pawn as his pieces will more rapidly get into play. Moreover, when it comes to stopping the advance of a pawn majority, a doubled pawn is an advantage rather than otherwise.

15. . . . KtxKt; 16. PxKt, QxQ; 17. RxQ, P-QB4; 18. B-Q2, KR-Q1; 19. B-R5, RxRch; 20. RxR, P-B3; 21. B-B3, PxP; 22. BxP, R-Q1; Black plays strongly. He forces the exchange of Rooks because, with only Bishops on the board, the doubled pawn becomes a weakness. The sequel demonstrates this fact.

23. RxRch, BxR; 24. P-B4, K-B2; 25. K-B2, B-B3; 26. B-Q6, B-Q5ch; 27. K-B3, B-Q4ch; 28. K-Kt4, K-K3; 29. B-B8, K-B2; 30. B-Q6, BxKKtP; 31. BxRP, K-K3; 32. B-B8, K-Q4; 33. K-Kt5, B-B3ch; 34. K-Kt6, B-K5ch; 35. P-B5, K-K4; 36. BxKtP, BxPch; 37. K-B7 (Diagram 4).

Black could now have obtained a decisive

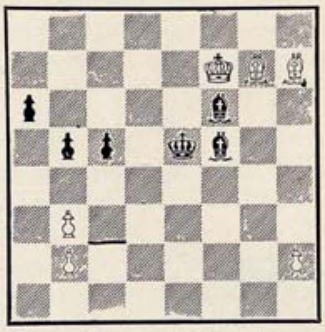


Diagram No. 4

advantage by: 37. . . ., B-K3ch; 38. K-B8, BxBch; 39. KxB, BxP. He chose the inferior continuation 37. . . ., KBxB; 38. BxB, KxB; 39. KxB, P-R4; 40. P-R4, K-Kt5; after which Black secured the draw by the problem-like move 41. K-Kt6, as follows: 41. . . ., KxP; 42. K-B5, K-Kt6; 43. K-K4, K-B7; 44. K-Q5, K-K6; 45. KxP, K-Q6; 46. KxP, K-B7; 47. KxP, KxP (Kt6).

One thing stands out clearly from this example: the pawn majority on the Q side can, in the later stages of the end game, assume the same characteristics which obtain in the case of the "distant passed pawn."

(To be continued)

off the chess(t)

By GEORGE W. FLYNN
Sacramento

ALL HAIL the champs! Ray Martin and Arthur Spiller really went to work on Labor Day weekend.

Martin won in convincing style over a very strong group of candidates for the State Championship. To finish two full points ahead of players like Croy and Pafnutieff shows the solid strength of Martin's play.

My only regret was that Leslie Boyette, the San Francisco flasheroo, was definitely off form. Yet, when Boyette is right he can pull off some of the finest chess ever seen in these hyar parts, and it was a dirty shame that he wasn't on the ball against Martin. I don't know who would have won (we'll have to figure Martin, because he did win)

but it would have been a game to play over with pleasure.

ARTHUR SPILLER sort of came out of the clouds to win the Santa Barbara Open Championship. We all knew he was a fine player, but not quite that strong. Which is all the more to his credit.

And Spiller and Martin turn out to be trailer-mates! Any more room in that trailer, fellows? A couple of hundred would-be champs would like to move in.

We have nothing but champions out here on the West Coast, now that Jim Cross won the National Junior title. Jim plays a super-duper game (this is understatement). Even in lightning chess, he seems to have a complete grasp of the position. I watched him perform this year at San Luis Obispo, and brother, he's good.

Jim looks more a basketball center than a chess player. He's about six feet four inches tall and can lay claim to being the master with the biggest feet in chess!

One objection I had to the lightning chess they played at San Luis Obispo was that when the man says "move" they don't move. They just sit and think. Ten seconds stretches out to almost twenty sometimes. How about a referee with a hard, hard heart to correct that situation.

HOW MANY of you are missing out on the fun in A. J. Fink's problem section? If you won't work 'em, you're overlooking one of the best features. I'm a poor solver myself and a tough one may take me three days, but when I finally get it right—yippee! I smile and smile. Even my dog goes around wagging his tail.

Well, as Chuck Hardinge, the "Gambit Fiend," once wrote in his Minneapolis chess magazine, "Come on, come on, come on, and dig up thet thar tew bucks and git yourself a hole yeers subscription tew dis valleybull maggyzene. Yew need de laffs and we kneed de doe."

modesto match

By FRANK SAYLOR

The Central California Chess League's championship Modesto team went to San Jose in October for its first match of the new season. There the San Jose Chess Club was found to be loaded for bear. The score: ½ to 7½ with Leonard Krogness making the only score for Modesto with his half point.

Players were:

MODESTO	SAN JOSE
1. Monty Jackson	Jerry Slavich
2. E. L. Jeffers	Bill Adams
3. Lee Kerfoot	Bert Mueller
4. Larry Davis	Francis Crofut
5. Jim Berry	H. O'Shaughnessy
6. Herb Paul	Mark Gasze
7. Leonard Krogness	Lyman Daugherty
8. Herman Wente	Geary Kirby

from the match

Opening resembles a Gruenfeld Defence.

Modesto vs. San Jose, 4th Board

White: L. Davis Black: F. CROFUT

(Notes by the winner)

1. P-QB4	N-KB3	6. B-N2	P-QB3
2. N-QB3	P-KN3	7. O-O	O-O
3. N-KB3	B-N2	8. Q-N3	NxN
4. P-KN3	P-Q4	9. NPxN	Q-B2
5. PxP	NxP	10. P-Q4	N-R3

Perhaps P-K4 would have been better but I didn't want to trade off my B.

11. P-K4	P-K3	15. P-K5	R-Q2
12. R-N1	P-QN3	16. N-N5	R-K1
13. R-K1	B-N2	17. B-QR3	P-KR3
14. P-QR4	QR-Q1		

Had Black tried to drive the N away earlier, White would have given it up for two Ps and a strong attack.

18. N-K4 P-QB4

Black intended to answer PxP with BxN, but this was not sufficient; White could have won a P with 19. PxP, BxN; 20. PxP

19. N-Q6 BxB

If White now plays NxR Black gets a wild attack with Q-B3. One "post mortem" ended up with Black having 2 passed pawns for the exchange.

20. KxB	KR-Q1	22. P-KB4	. . .
21. Q-B4	N-N1		

White cannot play PxP because Black replies with BxP. The White Q is unguarded.

22.	Q-B3ch	26. Q-K4	QxQ
23. K-B2	PxP	27. NxQ	B-B1
24. QxP	R-B2	28. N-Q6	KR-B1
25. R-K3	N-R3		

If NxR Black plays BxB and if White saves the N, Black wins back the exchange.

29. R-QB1 BxN 30. PxB? . . .

It seems that BxB would have been better.

30. . . .	R-Q2	34. RxR	PxR
31. R-Q3	N-B4	35. R-Q1	RxP
32. BxN	RxB	36. P-B4	P-Q5?
33. R-Q4	R-Q4		

K-B1 and win the P back later seems stronger.

37. K-K2	K-B1	41. P-QB5	PxP
38. K-Q3	K-K2	42. RxBP	R-Q4
39. R-QN1	P-QR4	43. R-B4	K-Q3
40. R-N5	K-K3		

In order to have the opposition after trading rooks. If RxP, K-B4!=

44. P-N4	P-N4	46. R-B6	P-B3
45. P-B5	K-K4	47. R-K6ch	K-B5

White can now no longer draw the game.

48. R-K4ch	K-B6	51. K-B5	KxP
49. RxP	RxR	52. K-N5	K-K3
50. KxR	KxP	53. KxP	P-B4

While this wins as both players queen. But Black miscounted; he could have stopped White's P with K-Q2 and queened his own pawn at leisure.

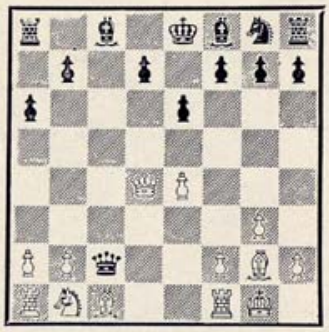
54. K-N6	P-B5	57. P-R7	P-B8(Q)
55. P-R5	P-B6	58. P-R8(Q)	Q-B7ch
56. P-R6	P-B7		

Followed by QxP and Black wins the end game.

six traps in the sicilian

I

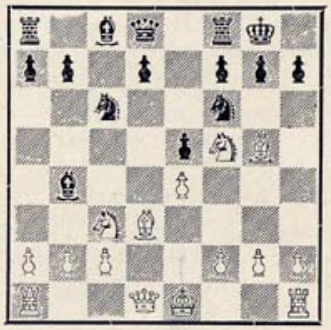
1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, P-K3; 3. P-Q4, PxP; 4. NxP, P-QR3; 5. P-KN3, Q-B2; 6. B-N2, N-QB3; 7. O-O, NxN; 8. QxN, QxP? (See Diagram) 9. N-B3!, N-K2; 10. R-Q1,



N-B3; 11. Q-K3, N-K4; 12. R-Q2, N-B5; 13. RxQ, NxQ; 14. BxN, and White has won a piece.

II

1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, P-K3; 3. P-Q4, PxP; 4. NxP, N-KB3; 5. N-QB3, B-N5; 6. B-Q3, P-K4; 7. N-B5, O-O; 8. B-KN5? (See Diagram) 8. . . ., P-Q4; 9. PxP, P-K5; 10.



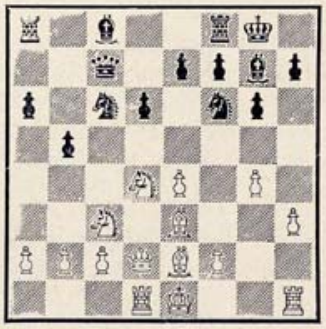
BxP, R-K1; 11. N-N3, NxB!; 12. BxQ, Nx NB6ch; 13. K-Q2, NxQch; 14. KxN, RxB; and Black has won a piece.

III

1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, P-K3; 3. P-B4, N-QB3; 4. N-B3, N-B3; 5. P-Q4, PxP; 6. NxP, B-N5; 7. NxN, NPxN; 8. P-K5, N-K5; 9. Q-N4!, NxN (See Diagram) 10. P-QR3!, B-R4; 11. QxNP, R-B1; 12. P-QN4, B-B2; 13. B-N5, BxKP; 14. QxRch! and White wins the exchange.

IV

1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, N-QB3; 3. P-Q4, PxP; 4. NxP, N-KB3; 5. QN-B3, P-Q3; 6. B-K2, P-KN3; 7. B-K3, B-N2; 8. P-KR3, O-O; 9. Q-Q2, P-QR3; 10. R-Q1, Q-B2; 11.



P-KN4, P-QN4?; (See Diagram) 12. P-N5, N-Q2; 13. N-Q5!, Q-N2; 14. NxN, and White wins a piece.

V

1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, N-QB3; 3. N-B3, P-K3; 4. P-Q4, PxP; 5. NxP, B-N5; 6. NxN, BxNch?; 7. PxB, NPxN?; 8. B-R3!, Q-R4;

(See Diagram) 9. Q-Q6!, QxPch; 10. K-Q1!, QxRch; 11. K-Q2, K-Q1; 12. Q-B8ch!, K-B2; 13. B-Q6ch, K-N3; 14. Q-Q8ch and mate next move.

VI

1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. N-KB3, N-KB3; 3. N-B3, P-Q4; 4. PxP, NxP; 5. B-B4, N-N3; 6. Q-K2, NxB; 7. QxN, N-B3; 8. QxP, P-K4; 9. Q-K3,

B-Q3; 10. NxP?, BxN; 11. P-B4, (See Diagram) O-O; 12. PxB, N-Q5!; 13. Q-Q3, B-B4; 14. N-K4, Q-R5ch and Black wins a piece.

chess league

By LEE H. KERFOOT

Modesto

The directors of the Central California Chess League conducted their annual meeting recently in Oakdale. The league now is comprised of Sacramento, Stockton, Oakdale, San Jose, Modesto. Fresno, and Pittsburg. Pittsburg being the latest addition to the league will play for the first time in the coming season's championhip match play.

Directors together with many league players had dinner before the meeting. The directors, Neil Austin of Sacramento, Frank Saylor of Modesto, Frank Olvera of Pittsburg, C. J. Smith of Oakdale, Kyle Forrest of Fresno, George VanHooser of San Jose, and M. E. Mattingly of Stockton, elected Mr. Smith, president; Mr. Austin, vice-president; and Mr. Mattingly, secretary-treasurer.

It was agreed to have match teams of six to twelve players with forfeits only for games less than six if any club fails to present the minimum six players for a match. The individual league champion will be the player winning the greatest number of scheduled games on board No. 1 during the match season.

The team captained by Lee Kerfoot, Modesto club president, won 9 to 5 in the informal play after the meeting.

paris - 1867

BY PROF. H. J. RALSTON

San Francisco

THE Paris tournament of 1867 was the fourth tournament to be held.

The first, London 1851, has been won by the celebrated German master, A. Anderssen; the second, New York 1857, by Paul Morphy; the third, London 1862, again by Anderssen. Unfortunately, the great German player was unable to participate in the 1867 tournament, but it did not lack other illustrious masters. The tournament was won by Kolisch, closely followed by Winawer and Steinitz.

The Paris tournament of 1867 is notable for several reasons. First was the conspicuous absence of Paul Morphy, who studiously avoided it even though he was living in Paris at the time.

Second, it was in this tournament that mechanical clocks were first used. Dr. Henry Davidson, in his book, "A Short History of Chess," says: "A player would be fined if he overstepped the time limit, which was originally fixed at a specified number of minutes per move. The whole plan proved unsatisfactory on three counts: a single mechanical clock had to be used separately for each player—an obviously awkward arrangement; a fine was not much of a deterrent to the player who waged a war of nerves—and no help at all to the victim; fixing a specific time per move was manifestly too rigid a system for chess." It was not until 1900 that the Veenhoff double-faced push-button clock became available.

BUT the third important feature of the tournament which here concerns us was the participation of the great American problemist, Sam Loyd. Alain C. White, in his "Sam Loyd and His Chess Problems," remarks: "What induced Loyd to enter the International Masters' Tournament at Paris in 1867 has always been a mystery to me. Browning has a poem about how Dante wished to excel for once as an artist and Raphael aspired to distinction in poetry; so it may be that Loyd, who had the very highest fame as a problemist, desired to be known rather as a great player . . .

"The management accorded him every honor, placed him on the choicest committees, and gave him the distinction of opening the Congress with his game against de Riviere. He had a won game up to the forty-seventh move, whereupon he let it slip through his fingers, and de Riviere won forthwith. Similar carelessness marked his play throughout the tournament, and his final score was only 6 won and 17 lost and 1 drawn. He was fortunate enough to get to brilliant endings, with Queen sacrifices, which more than retrieved his reputation for sensational play."

Here follows one of these games. By any standard, it is a remarkable game!

White—Celso Golmayo Black—Sam Loyd

Notes from the tournament book.

1. P-K4	P-K4	5. B-K3	B-N3
2. N-KB3	N-QB3	6. B-QB4	KN-K2
3. P-Q4	PxP	7. N-QB3	O-O
4. NxP	B-B4	8. Q-Q2	

We prefer O-O.

8. . . .	NxN	10. QxB	N-N3
9. BxN	BxB	11. O-O-O	

O-O seems better in this position.

11. . . .	P-QR3	12. P-B4	

Why the sacrifice?

12. . . .	NxP	17. P-KR4	N-B4
13. K-N1	N-K3	18. P-R5	P-R3
14. Q-Q2	P-QN4	19. QR-KB1	B-K3
15. B-N3	P-Q3	20. P-KN4	BxB
16. B-Q5	R-N1		

We do not like this exchange. Mr. Loyd could have played Q-N4.

21. NxB

It was better to take with the pawn.

21. . . .	NxP	26. K-B1	R-R1
22. Q-K3	N-N4	27. QxNP	N-B6
23. Q-R7	R-B1	28. R-K3	RxP
24. QxRP	N-K5	29 R-QR3	
25. R-K1	N-Q7ch		

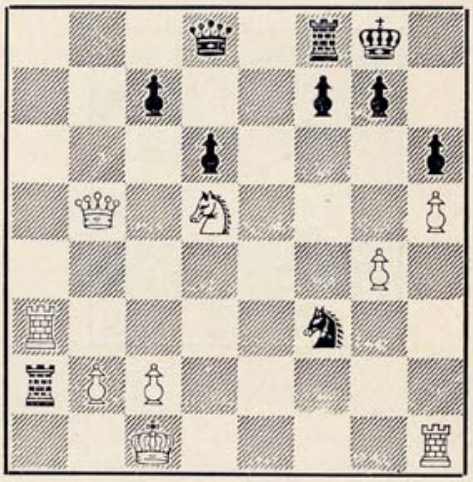
Black now announced mate in eight moves.

29. . . .	R-R8ch!	33. K-N1	Q-B8ch
30. RxR	Q-N4ch	34. RxQ	N-Q7ch
31. K-N1	N-Q7ch	35. K-R2	R-R1ch
32. K-B1	N-N6dblch	36. Q any	RxQ mate

NOW LET Mr. White tell the rest of the story:

"When Loyd had announced the mate in eight, and explained it, Golmayo at once resigned. The same evening both players found that the game should not have been resigned, as there was no mate at all. If White had played 34. K-R2, he might have readily won. No penalty for having announced a mate which didn't exist could be found, so long as the opponent had acquiesced in it, and the game was scored for Loyd.

Position after 29. R-QR3



"He always maintained that he could have won even then, and that Zukertort had subsequently adjudicated the game in his favor; but the position would have been too close for any general concensus of opinion, and the reader can make his own decision. The probable play would have been: 34. K-R2, QxBP; 35. NxP, NxR; 36. N-R6, N-N6; 37. QxN, Q-B3 etc. Loyd's intended sacrifice is one of the most ingenious variations of Philidor's Legacy that has ever occurred in actual play."

---

new club

A new chess club for Sonoma County was organized last month at Cotati under the name of Cotati Chess Club. Under the leadership of Harold Jaroske, the club now has twelve members. The club meets every Friday evening at the Women's Club House. Wives of the members meet at the same time to play Canasta and bridge.

AVAILABLE AGAIN!

Chess Sets Club Size

$5.50 and $6.75 *(Includes All Charges)*

French Made. In wooden boxes.
King Size 3½" to 3¾'. Loaded and felted.
Finely Finished. — GREAT VALUE!
FIRST ORDERED FIRST SERVED

SEND ORDERS (with Check or Postal Orders) to CHESS DIGEST, P. O. Box 124, Santa Rosa, Calif.

postal chess

STANLEY G. BEHRENDS, Editor
2117 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland 1, California

The point rating is established by assigning to each postal chess entrant 1200 points. From this initial rating, the player's current standing is computed by adding 50 points for each game won, subtracting 50 points for each game lost, and, in the case of a draw or stalemate, adding 25 points to each player's score. Following is a list showing the current numerical ratings of the players.

Dr. David-Malig, San Jose....1825
S. G. Johnson, Sacto.....1700
C. Schroeder, Garden Grove..1650
J. R. Glover, Pittsburg.....1425
H. G. Kispert, Carson Ctiy....1400
Robt. Schulze, Dixon.....1400
H. T. VanPatten, Seattle.....1375
Geo. Harrison, Jr., S.F.....1350
W. P. Heflin, McCloud.....1350
S. MacCarty, San Jose.....1350
Wm. Rinaman, San Carlos....1350
Hugh M. Cook, Los Gatos....1325
Elliott Ball, Alameda.....1300
J. M. Ginter, Berkeley.....1300
D. C. McDaniel, L.A.....1300
M. A. Sanders, Manteca.....1300
Thos. Weston, Merced.....1300
Frank Olvera, Pittsburg.....1275
Robt. Allison, San Anselmo....1250
Mrs. E. Downey, S. F.....1250
C. J. Whiting, Willows.....1250
Ginson Wong, Stockton.....1250
H. D. Brown, Dixon.....1225
E. H. Muller, Campbell.....1200
Fred Pelouze, Fresno.....1200
Primo Villarruz, San Jose.....1200
E. J. Walters, Vacaville.....1200
D. O. Wenrich, Merced.....1200
Salve Wilson, Pittsburg.....1200
Louis Yates, San Anselmo.....1200
Alan Atkins, San Rafael.....1150
Shearon Bonner, S. F.....1150
Roy Clausen, Jr., S. F.....1150
Wm. B. Kuder, Oakland.....1150
Philip A. Lydon, S. F.....1150
W. T. Quinn, S. F.....1150
Clifford Sevits, Dorris.....1150
Donald Welch, San Mateo....1150
Lionel Wolfson, Sebastopqol..1150
J. H. Cleaveland, S. F.....1100
Ralph Davis, Castro Vly.....1100
J. R. Gosser, Stockton.....1100
Geo. T. Hedges, Dixon.....1100
Keith Jewel, Berkeley.....1100
G. M. Johnson, Piedmont....1100
Nick Russ, S. F. 1100
Merritt Smith, San Diego....1100
Danny Williams, Dorris.....1100
Miss Lotha Wolf, S. F.....1100
Eddie Milan, Dorris.....1050
Mervyn Porter, Concord.....1050
L. Sherrill, Berkeley.....1050
Phillips Wyman, Jr., Salinas..1050
Leonard Hoff, Fresno.....1000
Rufus Rhoads, San Anselmo..1000
Kent J. Bendit, S. F.....900
Oliver W. Wreden, S. F.....900
Kurt Lowenstein, St. Barbara..800
R. L. Shea, S. F.....650

problems

Send solutions by the 25th of the following month to A. J. Fink, 111 Vienna St., San Francisco, Calif.

"Subscribe Now!"—Chess Digest

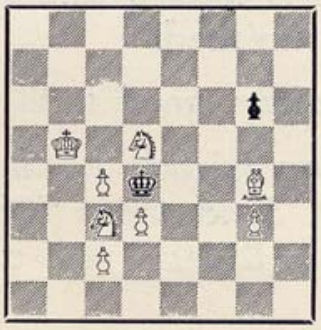
Solution to No. 37—1. Q-Rsq
No. 38—1. Q-B5
No. 39—1. R-KB2

Solvers seem to favor three move lightweights so our selections run accordingly.

No. 40 H. HUSE

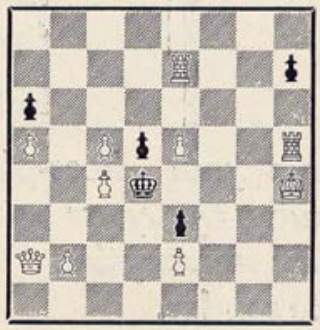
MATE IN THREE

No. 41 V. MARIN



MATE IN THREE

No. 42 O. KAINER



MATE IN THREE

Section 562 P.L.&R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Santa Rosa, Calif.
Permit No. 36

William Adams
Box 1104
San Jose 8, Cal

Return Postage Guaranteed

SPECIAL OFFER ! ! !

to mark its Fourth Year of publication

"CHESS DIGEST"

offers a holiday premium. boost "Chess Digest" and win an outstanding premium gift. now!

any $2 chess book desired* - to every subscriber obtaining three new subscriptions, or one renewal and two new subscriptions.

a $6.75 Club Chess set - free to any subscriber obtaining ten new subscriptions. this chess set is French made, and comes in a wooden case. king size is three and three-quarters inches. the set is loaded and felted and finely finished.

both offers good until Jan. 15, 1950.

give your chess-playing friends a Christmas gift they will enjoy the year round. Send them "Chess Digest." To each gift subscription "Chess Digest" will add a card to identify the sender.

*State first, second and third choice of book desired.